JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1985
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California GARDEN



HORTICULTURE CALENDAR

Jan 5,6

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY PRUNING DEMONSTRATIONS
Parker Rose Garden, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat: 10:00 a.m. Sun: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Free

Jan 19,20

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MINI-SHOW
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat: 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sun: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free

Jan 29
San Diego Floral Event

DEMONSTRATIONS & LUNCHEON
(1) Mobiles - Virginia Innis
(2) Sand Casting - JoAnn Gould
(3) Corsages - Mildred Anderes
(4) African Violets - Colleen Winchell
(5) Tillandsias - Jon Blackmer
(6) Foliage Arrangements - Mary Wood
Information & Reservations (NLT Jan. 25th): 232-5762
Tues: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. $6.00 [includes choice of three demonstrations and Luncheon]

Feb 2,3

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY 38TH ANNUAL SPRING SHOW
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sun: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Free

Feb 6,13,20,27
San Diego Floral Event

FLOWER ARRANGING WITH ADRIENNE
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Information: 298-5182 or 296-2757
Wed: 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Feb 7,14,21,28
San Diego Floral Event

THURSDAY WORKSHOP WITH COLLEEN WINCHELL
Free Floral Crafts Instruction, Open to the Public
San Diego Floral Association Library, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
Thurs: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Information: 479-6433

Feb 16,17

SAN DIEGO ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING MINI-SHOW
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat: Noon to 4:30 p.m. Sun: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free

Feb 19
San Diego Floral Event

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
Dinner & Special Program
Info: 232-5762 Reservations NLT Feb. 12th: 488-0082
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Tues: 6:00 p.m. Program: 7:30 p.m.

Feb 23,24

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER OF OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA 8TH ANNUAL FLORAL EXHIBIT
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat. & Sun: 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free

Mar 2,3

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY'S 4TH ANNUAL SHOW
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Sat. & Sun: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free

Mar 6,13,20,27
San Diego Floral Event

WESTERN FLOWER ARRANGING WITH MARTHA ROSENBERG
Information: 298-5182 or 296-2757
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park, San Diego
Wed: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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Camellia Variations On A Theme

Text and photos by E. C. (Gene) Snooks



(Right) 'Unryu' - A Natural Bonsai

THE TIME WHEN camellias could be simply described as winter blooming shrubs with large pink, red, or white flowers and large flossy dark green leaves is quickly coming to an end. To be sure, the above description is true for most camellias found in our gardens but the advent of new species, hybrids, and selected cultivars has expanded this definition almost without limits.

Already we have expanded the blooming season, developed dwarf, and other unusual growth forms. Newly imported species promise even more, including an expansion of the color range to include yellow, orange and all intermediate shades. Of special interest is the variation of foliage now available. Other recent additions include fragrance and new flower forms.

BLOOMING SEASON

Normally the camellia season is thought to extend from October to April with *C. sasanqua* blooming first, followed by *C. japonica* (camellia to most of us) and *C. reticulata*. The season has now been extended to encompass most of the year. Among the early bloomers are the *C. sasanqua* 'Egao,' a 3- to 4-inch rich pink semi-double with great petal substance; and *C. japonica* 'Rudolph' which is just as bright red as that reindeer's nose and blooms in time for Chirstmas. It is also an excellent coursage bloom.

A new hybrid of *C. sasanqua* x *C. miyagii* has extended the blooming season by several months, blooming in July and August with simple 2 inch white blooms. Another interesting hybrid, 'Snow Drop' has been in constant bloom in my garden for over a year. What this one lacks in size it more than makes up in numbers. Clusters of buds are set at each leaf axil, opening over an extended period. The blooms are similar to apple blossoms. The growth habit, being very upright, lends itself to some of those difficult-to--plant areas.

GROWTH PATTERNS

Though camellia growth varies from columnar to spreading, recent introductions have greatly accentuated these differences. Without doubt the most spectacular is *C. japonica*, 'Unryu' which is a natural bonsai. At each leaf, growth proceeds in the opposite direction at a 45° angle. Growth is moderate to slow, adding to its usefulness as a pot plant. The blooms are in keeping with the growth pattern; small, deep pink, and trumpet shaped.

The species *C. tsaii* is refreshing with slender, wavy leaves and a wispy open growth which tends to weep. Small, single white blooms complement the foliage. While *C. tsaii* is weeping, 'Kyoto' is the ultimate in strange growth. Rather than growing upright it grows horizontally. A plant 6 to 8 feet wide may be no higher than one foot. The many-branched plant is filled with light pink bells at most leaf axils. The hybrid, 'Ole' has a special attraction because the buds are red, not green. Being a very late bloomer, it is thus attractive for an extended period.



'Benten-Kugyra'

Several dwarfs have been introduced in recent years. These are especially useful as patio or balcony plants and in the small garden. Some of the best include the hybrids 'Baby Bear' and 'Snippet' and the *C. sasanqua*, 'Compacta.'

FOLIAGE PATTERNS

The leaves of camellias have always been one of their greatest attributes for they are very handsome shrubs, even when not in bloom. With some of the recent introductions, the foliage has become the "star" rather than a part of the supporting cast. Many of these introductions have been cultivated for centuries in Japan where they are highly prized and appreciated. Bi-colored leaves, usually ivory and green or two shades of green predominate and are often collectively referred to as "Benten" camellias. 'Reigyoku' is an outstanding example of this group with typical camellia-shaped leaves with an irregular bold ivory splash in the center. It stands out in any planting and is best used as an accent plant. Colored leaf edges are more common and include 'Benten-Kagura,' a Benten form of the old favorite, 'Daikagura' with a ragged and distorted leaf form with a pencil thin white edge---outstanding! The *C. sasanquas* 'Hana-Daijin Benten' and 'Mine-No-Yuki Benten' bloom identical to their parent plants except the former has an irregular shaped green leaf with occasional gray-green stripes, bordered with an ivory margin; the latter possesses gray-green leaves with a mustard-yellow border.

Still others are interesting for their unusual leaf shapes. The recently introduced species, *C. chrysantha*, is notable not only for its small yellow flowers but also its shiny, heavily waffled foliage. New foliage ranges in color from crimson to maroon, adding still another dimension of interest.

Some leaf forms are so distinctive and unusual that they hardly resemble camellias at all. The Japanese have named many of these after that which they do resemble, for example: 'Yuriba Tsubaki' (lily leaf camellia) which has ½ by 6 inch leaves. 'No-Kogiri-Ba' and 'Sakura-Ba--Tsubaki' both have leaves which resemble holly more than camellias. One of the most unusual forms, highly prized by the Japanese collectors, is the fishtail. Here the leaf tips split into multiples, strongly resembling a fish tail. One of the finest forms is 'Kingyo.'

Some cultivars incorporate several unusual features and none more so than the celebrated 'Kujaku Tsubaki' (peacock camellia); the pride of Japan. This willowy, semi-cascading plant has narrow peachlike leaves and tubular, slender petalled flowers of rich red mottled white.

FLOWER FORMS AND FRAGRANCE

It has often been said by those seeing their first camellias, "How can such a beautiful flower be so lacking in fragrance?." Until recent years this was mostly the case. Two species which possess definite fragrance of a pleasing scent have been bred into our more familiar *C. japonica*, and others, to produce several cultivars, each with its distinctive scent. Thanks to *C. lutchuensis* and *C. fraterna* and to a lesser extent, *C. kissi*, a whole new line of fragrant camellias are coming our way. Look for 'Fragrant Pink,' 'Fragrant Joy,' 'Scentuous,' 'Captured Enriches,' 'Cinnamon Cindy,' and 'Scented Gem' among others, for a treat to the nose as well as the eve.

Another interesting floral variation which has become popular recently is the picotee edge. Two of the most popular, 'Jean Clere' and 'Margaret Davis,' share a common ancestor, 'Aspasia Macarthur' and are the reverse of each other. The former is pinkish red with a white edge and the latter is creamy white with a vermillion edge. Both are medium in size and of the peony form. Two recently introduced cultivars have become very popular in spite of the fact that both are small single blooms. Free flowering 'Tama-No-Ura' is bright red with a wide white border born on slender stems. 'Kakureiso' almost has to be seen for it is very difficult to describe. It is a burgundy-rose which appears to have been spatter painted, with a narrow white edge. Really unusual. The collector of miniatures will be interested in 'Schuchuka' and 'Shikibu.'

Still others to look for with unusual floral forms include 'Tiny Star,' a 1- to 2-inch star-shaped bloom with no stamens and small leaves. (A possible bonsai candidate?) 'Tulip Time' and 'Pink Dahlia' both resemble their namesakes and 'Haru-No-Utena' is adorned with tubular light pink blooms with deeper pink and red stripes.



'Reigyoku'

For a complete change of pace, try the newly imported species, *C. yuhsienensis* which bears small single white blooms in clusters with twisted petals which resemble spider mums. Some forms of this species are also fragrant.

NEW COLORS

For too long the camellia color range was limited to red, pink, and white or combinations thereof. Four years ago the camellia world was set on fire as the long awaited seeds of the yellow camellia species, *C. chrysantha*, arrived from China and germinated. It has now been bloomed and it is, indeed, a rich yellow single bloom 1½ to 2 inches in diameter. The distinctive foliage has been mentioned above. A second yellow blooming species, *C. euphlebia*, has been introduced. It is not only a deep yellow, but fragrant! With these two introductions a whole new range of colors from orange to pure yellow and all intermediate shades is possible. Do not expect to see them on the market for at least 5 to 10 years, or more. Too long to wait? Do not despair, for last year the Nuccio's Nurseries of Altadena, California, discovered a seedling, of uncertain origin, which opened a medium size formal double bloom, light yellow in color. Since 1984 was the 50th anniversary of this business, it was named 'Nuccio's Golden Anniversary.' It should be available shortly.

The hybrid (*C. japonica* x *C. grantha-miana*), 'Fallen Angel,' has added still another color break. This medium semi-double is lavender with yellow pigments. An unregistered color sport of an old favorite, 'Professor C. S. Sargent,' will be bloomed on the West Coast for the first time this year and I can hardly wait. Flowers from the southeast, show it to be royal purple.

With all of these exciting additions to the camellia world and promise of much more to come, is it any wonder that a revival of interest is being shown both by the serious hobbyist and the home gardener? So, remember camellias are winter blooming shrubs with large pink, red, or white flowers and large glossy dark green leaves...and a whole lot more!

Mr. E.C. (Gene) Snooks' profession is a chemist; his avocation is camellias.



by Carol Greentree

"THE JANUARY GARDENER," by K. O. Sessions

Usually January will be a busy month for the gardeners---because we expect some rain and feel in a hurry to plant while the sun shines. This January it looks as though we must walk our garden paths in rubbers and wonder how they make gardens in Oregon, where it has the reputation of raining all the time.

San Diego was never so full of water on January 1st. It is ruinous to soil to spade and work it when wet, and about all we can do is weed the pansy bed...

It would be well for you to begin a garden book, noting down what you do---when you plant and prune and slip. Also a memorandum of what you observe in bloom about the city during the month. Every one should observe the groups of flowering shrubs and trees along the west drive in the park and also on Golden Hill.

The Rapheolepis ovata is fine now---blooms and berries. The Acacia baileyana is full of bud and worth much study and observation. In fact, all the Acacias and Genistas will be exceptionally fine this season because of the great amount of moisture. They both flourish under these present conditions.

Mr. George Marston says that the acacias under glass at Kew Gardens, England, look very feeble compared with the vigorous plants we have growing so easily here. There is a large family of acacias and one needs to observe them in bloom before planting.

["California Garden" magazine - January, 1910]

Plants Used In The Tet Festival

Ha Trong Luu

TET, THE MOST important Vietnamese holiday—the celebration of the lunar New Year—normally is celebrated for seven days. The holiday falls in January or February of each solar calendar year and will be celebrated February 20, 1985.

Most Americans have known Vietnam only through the war. They have learned its history, geography, economics, and politics, but their knowledge of Vietnamese culture is limited. Relatively unknown outside of Vietnam, one of the facets of this culture, fresh and effulgent, is the traditional art of ornamental horticulture used in association with the Tet festival. Plants in pots and containers, cut flowers and other decorations are collected in preparation for Tet. Ornamental flowers and plants are among the greatest in demand. These carefully grown and meticulously groomed plants are reverently admired during the day before the lunar New Year celebration.

The plants that are used during the festival are in three categories: ornamental plants, fresh fruits, and those used in jams and pickles.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

POTTED AND CONTAINER PLANTS. The ones often used are:



Phat Thu - bushukan, a variety of citron with very fragrant flowers and a fruit that is separated into fingerlike processes.



"WELCOME"

Kim Quat - limeberry, has solitary fragrant white flowers and dull red fruit, one-half inch in diameter, with mucilaginous pulp.

Mai Vang - yellow ochna, a deciduous shrub that has a cluster of flowers on a long stem. The individual flowers have 5 to 8 thin yellow petals and many brown stamens.

Duoi - heliotrope tree, has 8 inch long

branched clusters of white flowers. The fruit is first orange, then turns black.

Truong Sinh - kalanchoe, an erect succulent often called air plant, has oval green leaves tinged red.

Thuy Tien - Chinese sacred lily. The blooms of this narcissus are light yellow with dark yellow cup.

Cum Rum - shrub with dark green shiny leaves and large white five petalled flowers.

Ot - red pepper.

FOLIAGE PLANTS are displayed in the alley to the house or close to the main door. Sometimes, they can be seen in the living room. Most of them are:

Cau Kieng Van - yellow palm, with slender, graceful, yellow stems.

Truc - arrow bamboo, large deep green leaves to 10 inches long.

Cum Rum - is usually pruned to keep it dwarf and trimmed into the shape of a dragon, unicorn, phoenix, turtle, or other form.

CUT FLOWERS that may be placed in vases are:

Mai Vang - yellow ochna.

Dao - flowering cherry, closely resembling the Taiwan cherry which has deep rose-red blossoms.

Cuc - daisies in the chrysanthemum family.

Van Tho - the colorful Aztec marigold.

Trang - large tropical flowering shrub. The 1-inch flowers are rosy-red in large clusters. The deep green leaves to 12 inches are slender-pointed.

Thuoc Duoc - dahlias.

Lay On - gladiolus of many colors.

Hue - tuberose, with grasslike leaves and very fragrant waxy-white blooms.

No Ngay - globe amaranth, a stiffly branching annual that is covered with papery cloverlike flower heads in pink, purple, violet, or white.

Sen - lotus, with its many petalled delicate pink or white flowers and haunting fragrance, has very large leaves that are carried 3 feet or more above the water.

Lan Dat - vanda orchids.

The farmers have cut flowers taken from their fields such as:

Danh Danh - fragrant white gardenia.

Huynh Anh - golden trumpet vine, has clean shining leaves and large fragrant flowers.

Rang Gat Nai - a true aquatic fern with rosettes of light green succulent fronds.

People in the highlands may put these flowers in their vases:

Bang Lang - crape myrtle, bears quantities of crinkled flowers from pure white to pink, rose, lavender, and red.

Orchids - various species such as dendrobiums, cattleyas, and arachnis.

The painted vases, pots, and containers for these plants are made of cement, clay, or porcelain. They are round in shape, the diameter of which varies from 4 inches to 3 feet. Most of the designs are symbolic: a bank of herons flying in the calm sky, or a boy on the back of his buffalo blowing the flute, expresses peace. The farmer with his buffaloes tilling the soil, or women picking seedlings of rice (the harvest season), expresses prosperity, and a painting of a marriage or family reunion conveys happiness. Some containers have pictures of the symbolic animal for the coming year. These designs show the simple, peaceful Vietnamese life style, undisturbed by paraphernalia of material progress and fraudulent concoctions of the arrogant mind.

FRESH FRUITS

Various fresh fruits are put on the ancestors' altar along with cut flowers and jams. Among them are:

Thom - pineapple.

Mang Cau - soursop, a smooth skinned fruit 3 to 5 inches in diameter that is reddish or reddish brown when ripe.



Sung - cluster fig, roundish fruits, 1½ inches in diameter grow in clusters on the lower part of the trunk. The rather dry woody fruit turns reddish as it matures.

Du Du - papaya.





(Upper) CHUM RUOT
(Right) ME

Dua - coconut.
Xoai - different species of mango.
Buoi - pomelo, the oldest known citrus, is a 6- to 10-inch oblong yellow fruit grown primarily for its thick rind.
Quit - tangerine.
Dua Hau - watermelon.
Phat Thu - citron.

JAMS AND PICKLES

Jams and pickles are made from the leaves of some plants, from fruits, and from rhizomes, tubercles, and bulbs.

Cai Be Xanh - Chinese mustard, pickles are made from the leaves.
Bi Dao - white gourd, a large waxy-white fruit with solid white flesh and cucumberlike seeds.
Chum Ruot - Malay gooseberry, has 3/4-inch long thick, fleshy fruits.
Me - tamarind, the acid pulp of its fruit is eaten fresh or used as an ingredient in chutney, curries, and cooling drinks.
Mang Cau - soursop.
Thom - pineapple.
Dua - coconut.
Kho Qua - bitter gourd. The 6- to 7-inch oblong fruit is yellowish when ripe with many seeds in the red flesh. The skin is very bitter and odorous.
Khe - country gooseberry, is a handsome ornamental tree with yellow or golden-brown fruit. The 3 to 5 ribbed fruit varies in size up to 5 inches long.
Sen - seeds of the lotus are edible.
Cai Cu - daikon is along hard white winter radish.
Khoai Lang - sweet potato.
Kieu - scallion, clutivated for pickles.
Hanh - onion.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLANTS USED

BAMBOO, Cay Neu, is the most important plant used during the Tet festival. Cay Neu is a tall bamboo pole with tufts of leaves on top, that is erected in front of the house on the last day of the old lunar year. Various items are placed on the top of the pole including wind chimes, amulets, a sketch or symbols associated with Taoist philosphy: the Am Duong (Negative and Positive) principles of the universe and the law of changes. A few colorful cock feathers may also decorate the pole or a small square of woven bamboo representing a barrier to stop the evil spirits. It is used as a signal for the deceased relatives and benevolent spirits to enter the family household and as a warning to the malevolent spirits to depart.

OCHNA. This famous flower blooms in Vietnam during this period and is the most important symbol of Tet, being considered a prophetic flower. All the leaves are plucked off fifteen



JACK FRUIT

days before Tet. If it blooms in the morning of the first day of Tet, you will have a lucky year. If the flowers are withered, you will have an unlucky year. Usually the blossom has five petals. If you obtain a special flower with more than five petals, your hopes for the New Year will be realized.

KUMQUAT symbolizes five generations simultaneously under the same roof—the greatest good fortune for a Vietnamese grand family. The kumquat's ripe fruits, green fruits, flowers, buds, and tender leaves respectively represent the ancestors, grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren. The symbolism of kumquat is used as it often has the five phases of growth at the same time.

NARCISSUS bulbs are started in special vases weeks ahead. Tending and pruning these bulbs to time the blooming with the first day of Tet constitutes a truly consumate and keenly appreciated art. The beauty of its flowers, the grace and luxuriance of its leaves and stems make the narcissus a symbol of supreme elegance, charm and exquisiteness.

MARIGOLD is the symbol of longevity. The first day of the lunar New Year begins with a ritual offering of food to the ancestors. After the ceremony, the children, well dressed for the occasion, will present New Year's wishes to their parents and grandparents with a large marigold.

ANNONA. A large fruit of annona on the ancestors' altar symbolizes that the hopes and wishes of each of us will be satisfied in the coming year.

WATERMELON. It must be a red watermelon. The flesh of the first cut on the first day of the New Year tells you what will happen in the coming year. If it is red and stiff, you will be lucky and happy.

COCONUT, PAPAYA, MANGO. These three fruits when used together symbolizes that you will have enough money to spend during the whole year.

FIG is a symbol of reputation.

JACKFRUIT is the symbol of stupidity. Bananas and jackfruit are not present on the ancestoral altar.

BANANAS are the symbol of failure, because one can slip on banana skins.

LOC. At midnight of the last day of the lunar year, people celebrate 'Giao Thua,' the transition time, to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the New Year. After that, believers will go to the temple to offer prayers to Budda. There is a custom of picking up burgeoning branches from the temple gardens and bringing them home as a symbol of Heavenly Blessing.

These traditions, in which plant culture is so important, have helped the Vietnamese people survive 4000 years of civilization.

Mr Luu, now living in San Diego, was assistant professor and curator of the herbarium at the University of Saigon, Vietnam, before escaping to Indonesia in 1979 and to the United States in 1980.

Sketches from The Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture by L. H. Bailey, 1928 Edition.

Vietnamese Name	Common Name	Botanical Name
Phat Thu	bushukan, a citron	Citrus medica var. sarcodactylis
Kim Quat	limeberry	Triphasia trifolia
Mai Vang	yellow ochna	Ochna integerrima
Duoi		Streblus asper
Truong Sinh	kalanchoe	Kalanchoe pinnata
Thuy Tien	Chinese sacred lily	Narcissus Tazetta var. orientalis
Ot	red pepper	Capsicum
Cau Kieng Vang	yellow palm	Chrysalidocarpus lutescens
Truc	arrow bamboo	Pseudosasa japonica
Truc	bamboo	Arundinaria humilis
Cum Rum	heliotrope tree	Ehretia acuminata
Dao	flowering cherry	Prunus cerasoides
Cuc	daisies	Chrysanthemum
Van Tho	Aztec marigold	Tagetes erecta
Trang		Ixora
Thuoc Duoc	dahlia	Dahlia hybrida
Lay On	gladiolus	Gladiolus hybrida
Hue	tuberose	Polianthes tuberosa
No Ngay	globe amaranth	Gomphrena globosa
Sen	lotus	Nelumbo nucifera
Lan Dat	vanda orchid	Vanda teres
Danh Danh	gardenia	Gardenia jasminoides
Hunh anh	golden trumpet vine	Allamanda cathartica
Rang Gat Nai	aquatic fern	Ceratopteris thalictroides
Bang Lang	crape myrtle	Lagertroemia indica

(Continued on next page.)

Vietnamese Name	Common Name	Botanical Name
Orchid	orchid	Dendrobium, Cattleya, Arachnis
Thom	pineapple	Ananas comosus
Mang Cau	soursop	Annona reticulata
Sung	cluster fig	Ficus racemosa
Du Du	papaya	Carica papaya
Dua	coconut	Cocos nucifera
Xoai	mango	Mangifera indica
Buoi	pomelo	Citrus maxima
Quit	tangerine	Citrus x nobilis var. microcarpa
Dua Hau	watermelon	Citrullus lanatus
Cai Be Xanh	Chinese mustard	Brassica juncea
Bi Dao	white gourd	Benincasa hispida
Chum Ruot	Malay gooseberry	Phyllanthus acidus
Me	tamarind	Tamarindus indica
Kho Qua	bitter gourd	Momordica charantia
Khe	country gooseberry	Averrhoa carambola
Cai Cu	daikon radish	Raphanus sativus var. raphanistroides
Khoai Lang	sweet potato	Ipomoea batatas
Kieu	scallion	Allium bakeri
Hanh	onion	Allium cepa

ARRANGEMENT

France Conoley



'Peace'

White chrysanthemums and a stalk of Lycopodium, ground pine, are arranged in a black sogetsu container. Two white ceramic doves complete this artistic arrangement.

WICK WATERING

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Colleen Winchell

MANY AFRICAN VIOLET growers have found that wick watering not only saves time and energy, but also promotes better growth. Due to the measured, continuous supply of moisture and food the plants grow faster, develop larger, fuller, sturdier leaves, and bloom more prolifically. Wick watering is not a complicated process. All one needs is a reservoir for water and a wick to feed water to the plant.

MATERIALS NEEDED

A 7-inch length of 4-strand acrylic yarn.

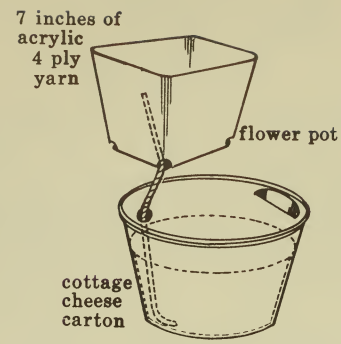
Plastic container with a lid. A clean 1-pound cottage cheese or ½-pound margarine carton may be used.

Water/fertilizer solution made by adding ¼ teaspoonful of 12-36-14 fertilizer to 1 gallon of water.

Crochet hook.

WICKS: Acrylic yarn, preferably white, makes the most satisfactory wick. (Colored yarn does not seem to absorb water as well.) Cotton cord or yarn rots too quickly. Commerial wicks are too heavy for violets, but may be used if the center cord is removed.

INSERTING WICKS: The easiest way to insert a wick is when the plant is repotted. Do not cover the drainage holes with crockery or screen. Leave them free so there is no danger of the wick being kinked. Using a crochet hook, pull the 7-inch length of yarn up through a drainage hole all the way to the top of the pot. Hold



Graphic by Marj Mastro

the yarn against the side of the pot with one hand while adding the plant and potting mix. *Do not tamp or shake down the mix.* Gently pull the yarn down until it is below the surface of the potting mix.

Carefully water the plant from the top with lukewarm water/fertilizer solution until the wick is thoroughly saturated in order to start the capillary action. Be careful not to wet the leaves or the crown of the plant. The fertilizer will spot the leaves and water in the crown can cause rot.

TO CONNECT RESERVOIR AND POTTED PLANT: Fill the plastic carton that is being used as the water reservoir with the water/fertilizer solution ($\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoonful of 12-36-14 fertilizer to 1 gallon of water). Replace the lid on reservoir, place the potted plant on it, and thread the wick from the pot through the $\frac{1}{2}$-inch hole into the liquid below.

Check in a few days to ensure the wick is carrying moisture up to the plant. Feel the soil with your finger, if it is wet, the wick is working. If it is not wet, moisten it again from the top to start the capillary action.

Once a month water thoroughly with lukewarm water to which has been added 1 teaspoonful of dolomite per gallon. Let the water run through until it is clear. This washes out the accumulated salts and sweetens the soil. African violets do not thrive in an acid soil. I recommend the use of horticultural dolomite (lime) regularly; it prolongs the life of the planting mix so the plants are healthier and more luxuriant.

SIZE OF POT: It is very important that the pot be suitable in size for each plant so that it will receive the right amount of moisture. As a rule of thumb a plant that measures 9 inches in diameter should be placed in a 3-inch pot, a 12-inch plant in a 4-inch pot. The root system of African violets is small so they grow best in a small pot. Wick watering is not recommended for young plants in very small containers.

PLANTING MEDIUM: This medium should be a very light and porous soilless mixture so sufficient air pockets remain to furnish oxygen to the roots. This is especially important with wick watering, and the reason for not tamping down the mix when planting.

There are commercial mixes especially for African violets that can be purchased at the nurseries. I find it a little too acid for violets, so a small amount of dolomite can be added to correct the acidity. African violet societies often make their own mix which they sell to their members and guests.

Wick watering is the perfect answer to "What shall I do about my African violets when I go on vacation?" No longer will you have to bribe a friend or member of the family to plant sit. Just use a sufficiently large reservoir to hold enough water to last the length of time you plan to be away. I find that a carton that holds about one quart of water will last 3 to 4 weeks, depending on the weather.

I recommend wick watering whether one has a few plants or a hundred. The luxuriant and prolifically blooming plants are my reward.

COLLEEN WINCHELL has a collection of over 200 African violets. She is a past president of the Balboa Park African Violet Society (of San Diego, Calif.) and lectures on the culture of African violets and wick watering.

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SUCCESSFUL TREE PLANTING

Bob Murphy

SUCCESS IN TREE planting begins with answering these questions:

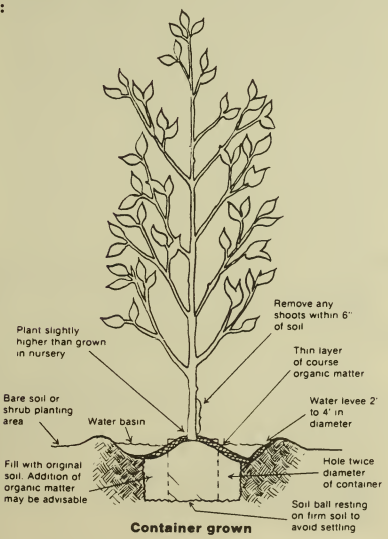
What do you look for when buying a container grown tree?
What kind of hole should be dug for the tree?
What do you need to consider concerning the watering?

The first consideration in purchasing a tree in a container is to check the plant carefully to avoid buying a rootbound tree. Look for the following signs:

Roots growing out of the container into the ground.
Twisted roots growing around the trunk of the tree.
A knot at the base of the trunk.
Heavy roots growing in circles inside the container.

---oOo---

The planting hole is important. When digging the hole you must consider these facts:



Make the hole square instead of round. You are probably asking why? The answer is simple. Tree roots have a better chance of growing into the native soil from a square hole than out of a round one, because in some cases trees planted in round holes have become rootbound and died. If you want to run an experiment to prove this to yourself just take a glass and run your finger around the inside. What happened? Nothing, right! Now take a square box and do the same thing. What happened? Your finger stopped at the corners. This is what happens with the tree roots in the square hole. They hit the corners and grow out into the native soil whereas with the round hole they just keep growing in circles.

The hole should be dug the same depth as the rootball minus 2 inches. This is a change from the old recommended method of digging the hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the container. Using the old method many trees would sink below the soil level causing crown rot and killing the tree. If you have hardpan or a heavy soil the old method would still be done in the following way: break up the hardpan or adobe, add 25 percent organic mix to the native soil, backfill to the proper depth, irrigate, and let stand for two to four weeks to allow for settling. At planting time check the soil level and backfill to proper height to allow the rootball to be 2 inches above the soil level when planted. If the hardpan is too deep or cannot be broken up, dig a shallow drainage ditch sloping away from the planting hole so excess water will drain away and not stand around the roots. Place gravel in the bottom of the ditch to facilitate drainage.

---oOo---

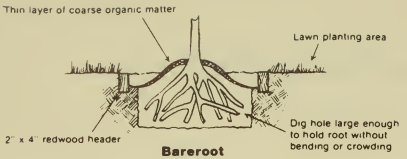
The final important step is watering the young tree. Here are some simple rules to follow:

Construct the basin so the water will drain away from the trunk.
Thoroughly irrigate the tree to settle the soil around the roots.
Add vitamin B1 to the water to reduce shock.

In a few days and periodically after that check to make sure the water is penetrating the rootball. In many cases I have found the soil to be wet around the basin, but the rootball completely dry. This occurred because the soil mix was different than the native soil causing a water barrier. If this happens, build a smaller basin to force the water into the rootball.

Take care not to overwater. This is usually a problem associated with clay soils that retains excessive water the can cause root rot.

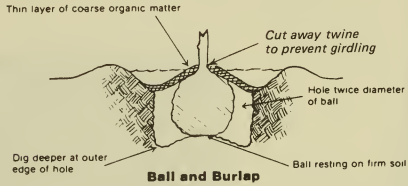
Do not underwater. This can be a problem with sandy soils especially during the summer months.



Bareroot

---oOo---

When planting in a lawn keep the turf 6 feet away from the tree trunk. This is necessary to prevent the turf from taking water and nutrients from the tree. Trees planted in lawns need additional deep watering for the first two years.



Ball and Burlap

If you have purchased a ball and burlap citrus tree or a bareroot fruit or shade tree, the planting method is slightly different. just follow the simple planting diagram in figures 2 and 3, showing the modifications.

Adding planting mix to the hole is no longer recommended, since trees have a better chance of getting established faster if the hole is filled with native soil. The added mix will create another foreign barrier for the roots before they can enter the native soil surrounding the hole.

Bob Murphy is grounds manager for maintenance, landscaping, and the nursery of San Diego's Balboa Park, and for all San Diego City parks.

Diagrams are from the University of California, Leaflet 2583.

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CULTURE OF IMPATIENS

Mike Kirby

Culture of impatiens is simple. They may be grown from seed planted outdoors where the plants are to remain or they may be started indoors and transplanted later. Impatiens reseed easily---seed capsules burst open when touched lightly and the seeds scatter. Plants are available in nurseries, however, some of the more unusual ones may be harder to find. Cuttings may be propagated almost any time of the year by taking stems 3 to 5 inches long. Plants from cuttings taken below the tip will branch out, while tip cuttings usually grow straight up. Dip the bottom of the stem into a rooting medium which helps to promote formation of the roots. Place the cuttings in vermiculite, perlite, or sand and give them a warm humid atmosphere until rooted. They may then be potted or set in the garden, if the weather is warm enough. When they reach 3 to 5 inches high start pinching the tips to encourage a more compact plant, but it is not necessary to pinch dwarf ones.

For best results impatiens should have rich, well drained soil that does not lack for moisture. New Guinea varieties do better if they are watered thoroughly and then let dry out before watering again. They will also take more sun than the ones commonly called sultanas, which need partial shade except in coastal areas.

In January to mid-February (in a Mediterranean climate) cut back leggy stems of established plants; by March there should be new sprouts. Feed with a balanced fertilizer to promote growth. Feed potted plants generously after their containers are filled with roots. Continue a regular feeding every four to six weeks.

Mike Kirby is with a long established nursery in San Diego whose staff is always well qualified and willing to provide ~~expert~~ gardening information.

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What's Happened to Grandma's Sultanas

Texted and photos by BILL GUNTHER



SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, GRANDMA NEVER HAD HEARD OF A PLANT CALLED IMPATIENS, YET SHE GREW IT IN HER GARDEN! IN THOSE DAYS, IMPATIENS WERE CALLED SULTANAS. THE ENGLISH BOTANIST, SIR JOSEPH HOOKER, IN THE LATE 1800'S NAMED THIS SPECIES OF PLANTS IMPATIENS SULTANII (LATER CHANGED TO I. WALLERANA) IN HONOR OF THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR, SO THEY BECAME KNOWN AS SULTANAS. WHEN THIS GAUDY SULTANA WITH THE RED AND WHITE SPLOTCHES WAS EXHIBITED IN THE BIG NEW LATHHOUSE IN BALBOA PARK DURING SAN DIEGO'S 1915 WORLD'S FAIR, IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A SENSATIONAL HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT.



ALL IMPATIENS ARE VERY FLORIF
FOR THEIR INCREASING POPULARIT
A VERY LONG SEASON. DWARF VAR
MOST FLORIFEROUS OF ALL. THE
ARE SO CLOSELY SPACED THAT THEY



SPIDERY-SHAPED BLOSSOMS AND VARIABLE BI-COLOR PATTERNS ON THE PETALS ARE FEATURES OF THE UNIQUE HYBRID IMPATIENS 'HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.' NOTE THAT EVEN THE FORM OF THE LEAF IS UNSTABLE; ONE LEAF IS ROUNDED WHILE THE ADJACENT LEAF IS SHARPLY POINTED AT THE TIP.



THE NOVELTY "ROSE IMPATIENS," A DOUBLE IMPATIENS, IS A DELIGHTFUL CONVERSATION PIECE BECAUSE ITS BUDS LOOK EXACTLY LIKE MINIATURE ROSE BUDS, AND ITS OPENED BLOSSOMS LOOK LIKE ROSES. EVERYONE WHO FIRST SEES IT ALMOST INVOLUNTARILY SNIFFS IT TO SEE IF IT SMELLS LIKE A ROSE. IT DOESN'T!

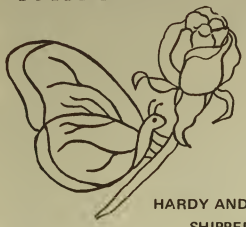


ROUS; IN FACT THE PRIME REASON
IS THAT THEY BLOOM HEAVILY OVER
ETY 'SUPER ELFIN' IS PERHAPS THE
SCARLET, PINK, OR ROSE BLOSSOMS
VERLAP EACH OTHER.



THE NEW GUINEA IMPATIENS DO NOT BLOOM SO HEAVILY BUT ARE USUALLY LARGER THAN OTHER TYPES. THIS LACK IS MORE THAN OVERCOME BY BRILLIANT FOLIAGE, WITH AREAS OF RED, YELLOW, WHITE, CREAM, AND GREEN COLORING. IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THOSE PLANTS WITH THE FANCIEST COLORING ARE THE MOST DIFFICULT TO GROW.

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PRUNING BOOKS

The following books are available in local San Diego nurseries:

How to Prune Fruit Trees by R. Sanford Martin, 10535 Los Lunitas Ave., Tujunga, CA 91042, was highly recommended for its graphics and concise instructions. Martin also wrote, **How to Prune Western Shrubs.**

Ortho Book: **All About Pruning**---The Complete Guide to the Pruning of Trees, Shrubs, Vines, and Perennials. An excellent book.

Ortho Book: **All About Trees**, has a good chapter on pruning trees.

HP Books: **Pruning---How-To-Guide For Gardeners.** Complete pruning guide with excellent photographs and graphics.

Sunset: **Pruning Handbook.** Excellent graphics in chapters on How Plants Grow and Pruning Techniques. Encyclopedia: A-Z makes up three-quarters of the book.

A.M.

GARDENER'S TIP FOR INDOOR PLANTS

Square or oblong plastic tables are available in many different sizes and colors. Turn one upside down, remove the legs, and you have an excellent tray to hold house plants. These trays, which can be in a color to match your decor, do not leak and they will last indefinitely.

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SELECTING A SHADE TREE

Skipper Cope



WE GROW TREES for their natural grace and grandeur. Also each tree has different attributes that may fulfill other qualities. Some trees soften the sharp edges of buildings, others add splashes of color to the landscape with their blossoms or fall foliage.

There are well over a hundred trees all around us that we see and admire almost daily. But which one should we choose for our own garden? The advice of Kate Sessions, pioneer horticulturist who planted hundreds of trees in Balboa Park, San Diego, California, was to find a mature tree of your choice and observe it carefully before planting one in your own garden. How tall does the tree grow, how wide is the spread of the branches, and is it suitable for a background tree or a specimen tree that will grow to dominate the garden? Where to plant a tree is almost as important as which tree to plant.

If the goal is a variety of trees that you especially enjoy, it would be desirable to have one or more trees at their peak of perfection all through the year. There could be two or three evergreens, a couple of trees with bright fall foliage, some small decorative spring and summer flowering specimens, and perhaps one that displays colorful seed pods all winter.

As a general rule, lawns and trees are not compatible, but there are some trees that will grow well in lawns because their shade is not too dense and they do not object to regular watering.

Shade is a factor to be considered. For instance, the shade cast by a large dense tree could create a dark dreary garden limited to a few shade plants, but that shade can be very useful if it falls on a rooftop, paved areas, and other parts of the landscape. Remember that shadows lengthen considerably in winter. If this could be a problem, a deciduous tree would be an excellent solution.

Another factor to consider is root growth. Be sure to select deep-rooted specimens; avoid ones with many surface roots and roots that seek water by growing into drains. Look for graceful trees whose branches can withstand strong winds, have thrifty watering requirements, and the least ground litter from leaf and seed drop. Having just described the perfect tree I hasten to warn that it does not really exist. However, keeping these factors in mind there are quite a few that come surprisingly close. After all, the beauty and enjoyment they provide is well worth the small amount of trouble they require to keep them healthy and neat.

Also, it is important to consider the size and shape of the tree at maturity. A 35 foot tree would be in excellent proportion beside a one story house. On the other hand, a 50 to 100 foot tree would be overpowering.

As a general rule, deciduous trees grow faster than evergreens, but the growth rate often varies among all trees depending on the soil fertility, rainfall, and temperature in the particular place each is planted.

While considering trees remember there can be beauty in numbers. The effect of a large tree can be achieved more quickly by planting several trees together in a single clump. A clump requires the same care as a single tree, with even less pruning and training. The young trees will quickly adapt to each other and form a graceful grove. Removing dead wood

and branches that rub will keep them neat and attractive. Slender trees, either flowering or foliage respond best to this treatment (see Fig. 1). To achieve an informal clump effect, plant several trees together in a planting hole. Intertwine the roots like fingers and tie the trunks together at soil level. The planting hole will need to be much wider to accommodate the roots, but no deeper than for a single tree.

Trees in the following list are among the many that are considered to be desirable. Their typical characteristics are described. Species vary widely in size and growth; even individual specimens may deviate from the standard description, but the deviations are not very great. It is important to select and purchase trees by their botanical names; common names are often misleading.

EUCALYPTUS - three specimens, all evergreen.

Lemon-scented gum, Eucalyptus citriodora, is best near the coastal areas. One of the most graceful, tall, slender trees that enhances any architecture, can be grown close to walls or walks since its roots run so deep. The lemon scented leaves give a nice fragrance and there is little mess from bark or leaves. This rapidly growing gum casts light shade, can be used in small gardens, and is not brittle in winds.

CORAL GUM - Eucalyptus torquata. The flower buds on this small graceful tree are bright orange and from them open beautiful coral red blooms with a mass of yellow staments. Needs staking and pruning when young.

SILVER DOLLAR GUM - Eucalyptus polyanthemos, a popular landscaping tree that grows anywhere, but not good in wet places. Select young trees carefully for the roundest foliage, which is excellent for cutting. They may be grown singly or multitrunked multistemmed. Height may be kept lower by pruning; grows 20 to 60 feet tall.

STRAWBERRY TREE - Arbutus unedo, an evergreen, grows slowly and bushy at first, but patience and pruning will turn it into a picturesque small tree to about 25 feet tall. Its name refers to bright red fruits that vaguely resemble strawberries which appears at the same time in fall and summer with small white or greenish- white urn-shaped flowers. Needs little water once established, but will tolerate more water if drainage is good.

WEEPING BOTTLEBRUSH - Callistemon viminalis, evergreen with pendulous branches and bright red brushes; bloom peaks in spring and fall, but some bloom at all times. Tiny birds love the seed. This tree needs ample water. It is not for windy, dry areas.

HONG KONG ORCHID TREE - Bauhinia blakeana has the largest flowers and the handsomest shape, spreading wider than its height of 15 to 20 feet. Flowers, shaped like some orchids, range in color from cranberry maroon to rose, purple, or orchid pink, often in the same blossom. A deciduous tree, leaves tend to drop around bloom time, but not completely.

CAMPHOR TREE - Cinnamomum camphora, an evergreen good anywhere. After a rain its bark is practically black and its leaves the lightest and brightest of greens. New growth is pinkish bronze and there are always a few bright red leaves--ready to fall---scattered through the tree. Slow growing, always neat and clean, it eventually can be 50 feet tall and a bid wider. Its roots can lift sidewalks.

BAILEY ACACIA - Acacia baileyana, a fast growing evergreen, good on the coast or inland. An Australian tree with feathery foliage (purplish on the variety purpurea) and in January and February masses of yellow flowers clusters of little puffy balls. A small tree that grows strongest with minimal watering, but branches are brittle and break easily in strong wind.

PEARL ACACIA - Acacia podalyrilfolia, the earliest acacia to bloom, has larger light yellow fluffy bloom in long clusters. The leaves are roundish, 1½ inches long, silvery gray, soft and satiny to touch, and they dry beautifully. Grows to 20 feet or more and spreads 12 to 15 feet, making it a glorious mass of yellow when in full bloom late in November and December, depending on the weather.

MAIDENHAIR TREE - Ginkgo biloba. A handsome, stiffly upright tree attractive at any season, especially in fall when leathery, light green leaves of spring and summer suddenly turn gold. Fall leaves linger, then drop quickly and cleanly to make a golden carpet where they fall. Leaf shape and veining resemble leaflets of maidenhair fern. Grows slowly, about 1 foot a year, but under ideal conditions may grow up to 3 feet a year. Stake young trees to keep trunk straight; young growth may be brittle, but becomes strong with age, Water thoroughly during dry periods, then let it become self-sufficient. Plant only male trees (female trees produce lots of messy ill-smelling furit). The following are good male forms: 'Autumn Gold,' 'Fairmont,' or 'Saratoga.'

JAPANESE MAPLE - Acer palmatum. Deciduous tree or shrub; slow growing to 20 feet. Most airy and delicate of all maples. Leaves deeply cut into 5 to 9 toothed lobes. All year interest: young spring growth is glowing red; summer's leaves are soft green; foliage turns scarlet, orange, or yellow in fall months; slender leafless branches in greens and red provide winter pattern. Culture about the same as for azaleas.

AUSTRALIAN WILLOW - Geijera parviflora, evergreen, small Australian tree has willowlike leaves, but it does not weep like the classic willow. It is, however, tough and trouble-free, and scaled to a garden, growing to 15 or 20 feet with deep roots. It can withstand drought, but does much better with regular watering.

NATAL CORAL TREE - Erythrina humeana, semi-deciduous; best near the coast; not hardly inland. This, the

smallest of the spectacular South African coral trees, is the right size for gardens. Bright orange-red flowers may appear when the tree is only 3 feet high; blooms continuously from late August to late November.

NAKED CORAL TREE - Erythrina coralloides. Deciduous to 30 feet high and as wide, but easily contained by pruning. Fiery red blossoms like fat candles bloom at tips of naked, twisted black-thorned branches, March to May. At end of flowering season, 8- to 10-inch leaves develop, give shade in summer, turn yellow in late fall before dropping. In the right setting it is sculpture.

SOUR GUM - Nyssa sylvatica. Deciduous. One of best lawn trees for fall color; dependable color even in mild-winter areas. Pyramidal when young; spreading, irregular, and rugged in age. Crooked branches, twigs, and dark red-tinged bark makes a dramatic picture against winter skies. Its small bluish-black fruit is attractive to birds. Grows well in any soil, takes much or little water, and tolerates poor drainage. For inland areas only.

NEW ZEALAND CHRISTMAS TREE - Metrosideros excelsus. Evergreen, grows best on the coast similar to its native habitat in New Zealand's North Island. Dark scarlet flowers in big clusters cover ends of branches in May to July. Foliage on young growth smooth glossy green, older plants develop leaves dark green above, white, wooly underneath. Grows slowly to 20 to 30 feet.

JACARANDA - Jacaranda mimosifolia. Deciduous. A remarkably beautiful Brazilian tree, airy and graceful, with ferny foliage and masses of lavender flowers in May or June. Grows fast to 40 feet. Fairly hardy after it attains some mature growth, but young plants are tender below 25° F. Grows best in sandy soil, but tolerates other soils. Needs regular, but not frequent irrigation. Lavender flowers carpet the ground or lawn when in full bloom, beautiful to some, messy to others.

GRAPE MYRTLE - Lagerstroemia indica. Deciduous shrub or small tree for inland gardens; does not flower freely except in hot summer areas. In late summer, it is a mass of flowers, colored white through red to purplish; in full, foliage turns bright yellow or scarlet; and in winter, it has a delicate silhouette of upward reaching branches. Plant in full sun, water infrequently, but deeply. Mildews along the coast.

YELLOW OLEANDER - Thevetia thevetioides. Flowers in clusters of brilliant yellow, to 4 inches across, June-July and into winter. An outstanding tree; people stop to admire its beauty. Shallow rooted; protect from wind or prune to lessen wind resistance. They thrive in heat, but desert heat wilts summer flowers; takes full sun, but little frost. Like the oleander, there is a toxic quality to all its parts especially the milky sap, and the fruit of the thevetia.

CHINESE FLAME TREE - Koelreuteria bipinnata. This makes a handsome classically shaped shade tree with inconspicuous flowers that are followed by sprays of papery seed pods standing out from the tree in orange, red, or salmon-colored that many people think are blooms. Roots are deep; good patio shade tree, lawn, or street tree.

TRUMPET TREE - Tabebuia impetiginosa. Deciduous, little frost-tender for inland valleys. A recent immigrant from South America, this spectacular tree, slow to start, sometimes not flowering for several years, becomes a 20- to 30-foot tree of delicate structure, perfect for a patio. Leaves drop briefly in late winter followed quickly by masses of rosy-pink to lavender trumpet flowers. T. chysotricha is smaller and less floriferous, but its flowers are brilliant yellow.

PEPPERMINT TREE - Agonis flexuosa. Evergreen, coast or inland. One of the best small trees where the temperatures stay above 27° F. A handsome Australian tree that grows willowy at first, then becomes gnarled and majestic with age, though it never gets much taller than 25 feet. Leaves are narrow, bright green, with a sharp peppermint scent when crushed. Use it in a lawn, trained as an espalier, or as a tub plant. Very tolerant of soil types and watering practices.

SILK TREE - Albizia julibrissin. Deciduous, best inland. Perhaps the best patio tree for hot inland areas, as it is wide, spreading to 40 feet or more, but not too tall, about 30 feet, but can be headed back to 10 to 20 feet. In early summer it is covered with fluffy pink flowers on ferny-leaved branches, the light-sensitive leaves fold at night. It is most attractive in its natural growth habit---a multiple-stemmed tree. Filtered shade permits growth of lawn and shrubs beneath it, however it does litter with fallen leaves, flowers, and pods. A beautiful tree, nevertheless.

CHINESE TALLOW TREE - Sapium sebiferum. Deciduous; best inland. Foliage is dense, but general effect is airy; the popularlike leaves flutter in lightest breeze. If tree is in full sun and has moderate autumn chill its foliage turns brilliant, translucent, neon red. Some trees color plum purple, yellow, orange or a mixture. If possible select your tree while it is in fall foliage. Grows slowly to 25 feet, tends toward shrubbiness, multiply trunks, but easily trained to a single trunk.

GOLD MEDALLION TREE - Cassia leptophylla. Deciduous, not for inland valleys. A graceful Brazilian tree that grows fast to about 25 feet, spreading to form a perfect canopy for a patio. Bright green leaflets fall in late winter and new growth quickly follows. For up to two months in summer, it is smothered with brilliant butter-yellow blossoms and scattered blooms in spring. Some turn into foot-long beans.

ITALIAN STONE PINE - Pinus pinea. A slow growing pine that is a dense low-dome of dark green foliage for the first 10 or 20 years, but in time it becomes too big for a small garden. A hardy tree, takes heat and drought when well established, but it is also excellent in beach gardens.

THE 'ICE' PLANTS

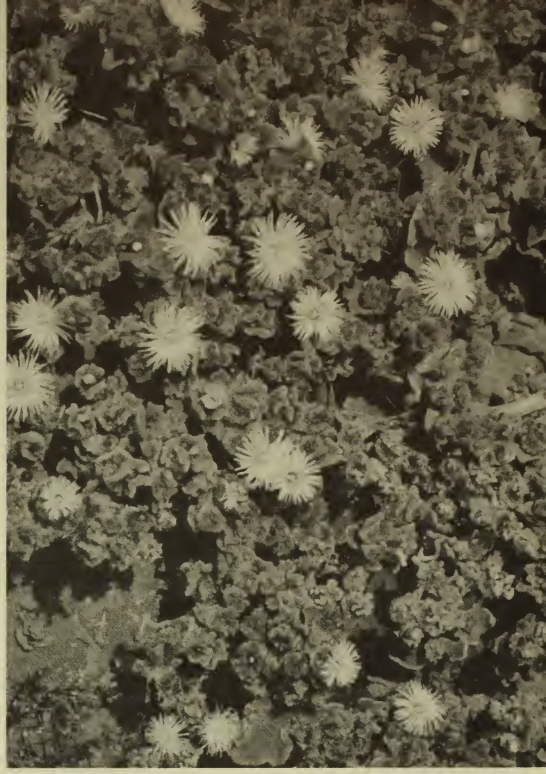
Rick Latimer

WHEN MY FAMILY moved here from Indiana in 1956, we encountered many 'exotic' plants in our 'new world' of San Diego County. The hillside back of our house was planted with what were called 'ice plant.' For years I never knew why it was called ice plant. The plants themselves, did not look like ice, unless perhaps someone skinned them revealing the succulent interior which might look like prismatic ice cubes. Anyway, it was no big thing. On occasion we children would break off the leaves and use them as the medium for our temporary artwork on the sidewalk.

Years later when I took up growing succulents as a hobby and discovered that plants had botanical names, I learned that this plant was a member of the family Aizoaceae and in the genus *Carpobrotus*. At one time most of the species of this family were included in *Mesembryanthemum*, formerly a large genus. Now mesembranthemum or mesemb is the name commonly used for these succulents. The name *Carpobrotus* derives from the Greek karpos=fruit and brota=edible things. Some mesembs are edible, the fruits of *C. muirii* are dried and sold locally in their native land of South Africa and *C. dulcis* are eaten raw. The fruit is said to have an acid-sweet taste, but I have never tried to eat one, even the ones that we grow.

The two mesembs that we all see growing here on backyard hillsides or along highways have either purple or yellow flowers and are rather coarse heavy plants that are really only suitable for more gentle slopes (such as for stabilizing sand dunes). In past years, with heavy rains, these plants have caused some of the steeper hillsides to slide. Since fruits of this genus ripen like figs, they are called Hottentot's fig or fig marigold in southern Africa. As far as the common name of ice plant goes, it is better applied to some of the other members of this family.

An ice plant would be *Mesembranthemum crystallinum*, one of the few annual members of this large succulent family. The small whitist flowers are rather insignificant if compared to some of the other species. They are covered with enlarged surface cells that are full of water. In the sun they shine like diamonds. (In Germany they are called 'Sun Dazzlers.') The flat leaves also have little water bladders all over them which look like dew drops in the morning sun, but they persist all through the hot afternoon and of course through the night; in fact, throughout the life of the plant. The plants will not propagate from cuttings. A cutting will survive on the stored water and even bloom, but eventually all of the water storage cells will collapse, and finally nothing remains except a dried out branch and the ripened fruits. The species grows along our coasts every year. This year I could not find any, due to our drought last year. They were plentiful down in Baja California, however, and had become reddish from the bright sun.



MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CRYSTALLINUM NEAR SAN TELMO, BAJA CALIFORNIA

Another annual ice plant is *Dorotheanthus gramineus*. The 'ice crystals,' however, are smaller, as are the plants. The flowers are a good inch across and may be carmine, orange, yellow, or white in color. Another species *D. bellidiformis* has multicolored flowers. One form has blossoms with a dark violet center, followed by an orange ring in the center, and topped off with a violet-red edge. Flowers of other forms, called Livingstone daisies include combinations of pink, yellow, lavender, and white. Some of the cacti and the "rock rose," *Portulaca grandiflora*, (members of different but relatively closely related families) are among the most colorful blooming succulents. Plants with flowers as beautiful as these should be easy to obtain in the area of San Diego, but they are not. About

10 years ago some were found at a discount store. There are other species with ice crystals on the stems and leaves. Most of the species in this family have smooth leaves like the Carpobrotus.

Plants of the genus *Lampranthus*, which make better hillside plants since the foliage is finer and lighter, are commonly grown. The foliage is not much to look at, but when the flowers bloom they completely cover the foliage and you wonder how the plant survives, supporting all that bloom while being cut off from the sun. On sunny days the blooms, in all the warm colors from white through orange, pink, and magenta are so shiny that looking at them hurts the eyes. Seeing hillsides carpeted with this colorful plant brightens our winters.

Although the blooms of mesebryanthemum (Greek mesembria=mid-day and anthemon=flower) look like daisies, they are not closely related. The mesemb flower is indeed a single bloom with a single pistil and numerous stamens surrounded by numerous petals. A daisy 'flower' is actually a cluster of many small flowers united into a single head and surrounded by pseudo-sepals called bracts. The vast majority of the over 1200 species in about 130 genera are leaf succulents, although a few are stem succulents. The water storage content of the leaves may be as much as 95 percent of the volume in some species such as the 'living rocks.' In contrast to other succulents, such as cacti, euphorbias, and aloes which have both miniature and arboreal species, the mesembs are mostly ground covers or even reduced to just two leaves, the living rocks again. Walter Wisura of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens in Pomona, California, says there is one species of *Ruschia* that attains a height of over 8 feet and a few others that grow as high as 4 feet, but these are definitely exceptions.

Many desert plants fruit in the dry season and the seeds fall deep into the cracked ground to wait for the next rainy season to sprout. In contrast, seed capsules of the mesembs, with a few exceptions, open and shed their seeds only on rainy days and close again when dry. During prolonged dry periods the seed capsules may remain firmly closed for years. The tiny seeds, ranging in size from 2mm (approx. 1/12 inch) to a fine powder, are not buried in the soil, but germinate rapidly on the surface. Since the seeds are not dispersed very far by this method, this explains why so many of the mesemb species have such limited habitats.

Some species of mesembryanthemums are very easy to grow, indeed some are weeds; yet at the other end of the spectrum there are plants that seem impossible to keep alive for very long.

Some of the obscure, yet interesting ground-cover-habit type 'mesembs' are worth hearing about. Members of the genus *Psammophora* (psammos=sand and phorein=bearing) reportedly have sticky leaves that become clothed in a protective coating of dust and sand. This is not only a protection from the hot sun, but from browsing animals. Another odd genus is *Hydrodea*. Species of this genus live in soil with high salt content. Although those who have grown them say they do not need salt in cultivation, it is recommended that a ½ to ¼ percent salt solution be used to water them. The plant that looks like a bunch of grapes laying on the sand, *Jensenobotrya lossowiana*, has a peculiar stem formation. The old stems become as thick as an arm. It is thought that these branches may reach an age of at least 200 years!

The dry, frost-free regions of southern Africa may be regarded as the home of Aizoaceae. Indeed 99 percent of all species are indigenous to that part of the world where many of them have very limited habitats. A few mesembs have been found by modern botanists outside this limited region on some Atlantic and Pacific islands and in Australia, Chile, Baja and Alta California, the Mediterranean region, Arabia and Iran. It has been suggested that most of these 'escapees' (*Carpobrotus* and *Mesembryanthemum* are two) found outside of southern Africa were spread by earlier explorers. It has been proposed that the seeds were in some way transported by ships to other regions with a Mediterranean climate.

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Hermann Jacobsen, *A Handbook of Succulent Plants*, V. III.
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Rick Latimer is a member and former president of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society. He is also a member of the Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society and writes frequently for their bulletin, Espinosa y Flores.

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CONTINUED
from November-December 1984 issue--

POPULAR INDOOR PLANTS

Allethe Macdonald

PIGGY BACK PLANT, *TOLMIEA MENZIESII*. Piggy back is grown for its interesting foliage; tiny plants develop on the tip of the leafstalk. A native of the Pacific Coast from Alaska to California, it will not tolerate alkaline water. Use distilled water or rainwater and water freely. Feed regularly to maintain growth. It is also important that the plants receive as much light as they will stand without the foliage becoming bleached or scorched. Too much shade results in weak floppy stems.

When the plants begin to look ragged as they age, start new ones by potting up the leaves (with plantlets attached) in sandy soil or other rooting medium. They also will root in water with the leaf barely touching.

POTHOS, *EPIPREMNUM AUREUM*. Pothos is the common name used primarily for climbing vines with tough slender stems, native to Old World tropics. The name, however, is often misapplied to *E. aureum* and *Scindapsus pictus*. The one usually found as an indoor plant is *E. aureum*. Its glossy bright green leaves, in the juvenile stage, are irregularly splotched or marbled yellow or white. Most plants are sold in the juvenile stage. As the leaves mature, they become striped with yellow or white. Give these plants the same culture as for philodendrons.

PRAYER PLANT, RABBIT TRACKS, *MARANTA LEUCONEURA*. An interesting tropical American foliage plant. The upper surface of the leaves are variegated, light and dark green or brown with shiny luster, sometimes with gray or red veins. One variation *M. l.* 'Kerchoviana' has bright green leaves with a row of dark brown or dark green blotches in a line, one each side of the midrib, hence the name, rabbit tracks. Its leaves fold upward at night giving it the name prayer plant.

Marantas need warmth, high humidity, shade, and regular feedings with ¼ strength liquid fertilizer. Keep the soil moist, but not saturated. Too intense light makes the leaves curl. especially the prayer plant, and the tips may turn brown from low humidity and alkalinity.

To encourage new growth toward the center of the plant, cut the longer stems back to the rim of the pot. The remaining stem will resprout and these new leaves will give the plant a more pleasing appearance. Make cuttings of leafy tips from the pruned stems. These will usually root, but if they don't, nothing is lost. Propagation may also be made by division of the crowns.

SANSEVIERIA, sometimes called snake plant or bowstring hemp. This native of tropical Africa and India is one of the easiest plants to grow indoors. It will thrive in bright light, but it also will grow in dark areas. Any good potting mix may be used. The soil should feel dry before watering, but water it thoroughly each time. Feed regularly, but lightly, the year around.

Propagate by division or cuttings. To make cuttings, cut a leaf about 3 inches long, insert in sand or perlite, keep barely moist, and wait patiently.

SCHEFFLERA. These evergreen fast growing, tropical-looking plants have long-stalked leaves divided into leaflets which spread like the fingers of a hand.

Give them the same culture as for ficus.

SPIDER PLANT, *CHLOROPHYTUM COMOSUM*. A long lasting indoor plant which grows in a low clustering rosette with soft green recurving leaves to 18 inches long and ¾ inch wide. Long racemes appearing from the center will first flower, then develop tufts of leaves with aerial roots. Not at all choosy about soil, but a fairly porous, well draining soil is best. Water sufficiently often to keep soil evenly moist. Their tuberous roots fill the pot quickly so poke holes in the soil in several places with a screw driver or other tool. Water will soak into the soil instead of running over the edge of the container.

Regular feeding with diluted fertilizer will keep the plant healthy. It will take light or heavy shade and will survive neglect, if necessary.

WANDERING JEW--*ZEBRINA PENDULA, TRADESCANTIA FLUMINENSIS* and *T. ALBIFLORA*. These long-trailing or sprawling plants with succulent stems that root at each joint, have wandered into two distinct genera. *Z. pendula*, a native of Mexico and Guatemala, has leaves striped with whitish above, purple beneath in the typical form. They are also variously variegated, solid dark red, or red-green, but they all have rose-red flowers.

T. fluminensis has leaves that are green above and deep purple-violet beneath. Its small flowers are white. The leaves of *T. albiflora* are green on both sides, but there are also variegated forms. All forms have the small white flowers.

Culture is the same for all three plants; easy to grow in well draining soil with average watering and feeding with diluted fertilizer. Give them strong light, but not direct sunlight; variegated plants need more light than all green ones. Renovate overgrown plants by cutting them back severely, or start new plants from cuttings rooted in soil. Trailing stems can be kept a long time in a container of water.

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Book Reviews

Books are available in the horticulture library, San Diego Floral Association

IKEBANA OF JAPAN, Heika style, Houn Ohara, Shufunotomo Company, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, 1976.

Heika and moribana are the two basic methods of flower arranging in the Ohara school. The twenty full color heika designs created by the late headmaster of the Ohara school for this booklet appear intended as a teaching collection. The pages, each showing an arrangement in a specified style with diagramatic placement, identification of plant materials and container, can be removed and used as separate lessons. Although classically designed, many of these striking arrangements have a bold, contemporary look. (Reviewed by Sharon Siegan.)

THE ART OF HOUN, Houn Ohara. Shufunotomo Company, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, fourth printing 1979.

Similar in format to the earlier booklet, the larger, glossier cardboards also feature the arrangement with explanation on backside, adding up to twenty pages. Houn, the grandson of the founding Ohara, shows expressive examples of both heika and moribana, with explanations in three languages (English, Japanese and German.) His interest in this book is less on formula, more on capturing a feeling. The arrangements show a great range of style, combine unusual plant material, accessories and containers. (Reviewed by Sharon Siegan.)

NEW ZEALAND WAYS WITH FLOWERS, Eileen Dobson, Sevenseas Publishing Pty., Ltd., Wellington, New Zealand, 1971.

Dodson's slim hardcover is intended to acquaint New Zealanders with the fantastic array of floral and related material available for the finding, taking, and/or growing. Hoping to excite the imagination and encourage experimentation in arranging, she eschews formal rules of design, emphasizing personal expression.

Her own arrangements shown in full color, exhibit strong Eastern and modern influences. They are presented with explanation of material used and alternatives suggested. The short history of New Zealand flower arranging along with suggestions on treatment of material and container construction round out the book. (Reviewed by Sharon Siegan.)

CACTI & SUCCULENTS by Gunter Andersohn. EP Publishing, Ltd. Distributed by Sterling Publishing Company, 2 Park Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1983, $19.95, 312 pages.

A comprehensive book covering every aspect of cacti which is beautifully illustrated with color photographs and graphics. The chapter on requirements for growth is excellent. Detailed graphics illustrate methods of propagation, including when and how grafts should be made.

A large compedium of the most interesting genera and species of cactus for the amateur is illustrated with color photographs for each one described. (Reviewed by Allethe Macdonald.)

DESIGN WITH PLANT MATERIAL by Marian Aaronson. Grower Books, 49 Doughty St., London, WC In 2LP, 1980, 119 pages.

Excellent book for the flower arranger. There are sixty-three black and white photographs that show the relationship of plant materials and components used for harmony and unity in abstract design. (Reviewed by Allethe Macdonald.)

THE ART OF FLOWER ARRANGING by Marian Aaronson. Grower Books, London. Distributed by International Scholarly Book Service, 1230 S.W. Parkway, Portland, OR 97225, 1980, 118 pages.

Primarily written for the beginner and advanced arranger. Emphasis in this book is on elements of design, space, form, line, texture, color variety, and contrast which she illustrates with 200 excellent photographs in black and white. (Reviewed by Allethe Macdonald.)

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Now is the time

- to watch watering program; less water is needed at this time due to slower growth, but do not allow to become too dry or wet.
- to check potting mix and add more to keep roots covered where soil may have washed out of pots.
- to keep plants clean; remove old and dead foliage.
- to establish a snail and slug control program before new growth starts.
- to spray for mildew.
- to grow some new varieties from seed.
- to start tuberous types in February for summer bloom.
- to start cutting back lightly on cane and shrub types towards the end of February, about Washington's Birthday.

BONSAI Dr. Herbert Markowitz

Now is the time

- to reduce watering during rainy season; they need less water during this slower growth period, but do not allow to dry out.
- to refrain from fertilizing your trees.
- to use a lime-sulphur spray on deciduous trees.
- to graft evergreen trees as well as conifers.
- to watch for aphids and other sucking insects; spray accordingly.
- to prune fruit-bearing bonsai.
- to check deciduous trees carefully. If they start to sprout in February, move them to shade area to prevent blooming too early.

BROMELIADS Linda Prell

Now is the time

- to give your plants a rest---do not fertilize at this time.
- to keep cups of plants dry for winter protection.
- to withhold watering if weather is cold and rainy.
- to bait for slugs and snails that thrive during damp weather. Spread bait on the soil, not in cups of plants.
- to protect plants at night in frost areas. Cover them with newspapers, sheets, plastic bags, or put them in the garage, if necessary.

CACTI & SUCCULENTS Verna Pasek

Now is the time

- to watch for blooming cacti and succulents. mammiliarias and neoporterias in pots may be brought inside to enjoy. Place in well-lighted location, out of drafts and not too warm.
- to watch for insects---use malathion to control most pests.
- to protect tender cacti and succulents from frost.
- to protect from too much water; keep on dry side in cool temperature areas.
- to withhold fertilizers---plants need a rest at this time of year.
- to depend on the rains to care for plants in the ground and exposed pots.
- to collect rain water to use other times of the year.

CAMELLIAS Benjamin Berry

Now is the time

- to pick up all fallen blossoms to avoid an infestation of petal blight (sclerotinia).
- to renew mulch where needed; use fir bark or pine needles.
- to continue feeding 2-10-10 or 0-10-10 to established plants.
- to make grafts.
- to transplant camellias. Do not fertilize newly transplanted bushes, but water well and often with vitamin B-1 solution.
- to select plants from nurseries while in bloom.
- to maintain a regular spraying program. Dust with chlordane under and around plants to discourage leaf beetles.
- to have a regular watering schedule unless sufficient rain---soil should be moist, but not wet.

DAHLIAS Abe Janzen

Now is the time

- to dig any tubers left in the ground. By early January the tops should be completely withered. Cut tops just above the ground.
- to store tubers without dividing---store vermiculite or sand, leaving on any soil that clings to them. Keep in a cool area.
- to inspect those tubers stored earlier for signs of shriveling; if too dry add a little moisture.
- to start to preparing the garden plot in February. Turn the soil, add humus and fumigate. Dig in humus, equal parts of superphosphate, and sulphate of potash---turn over well. Add fertilizer two or three weeks before planting.
- to start in February some special selected

roots to send out sprouts which will make good cuttings. Apply some bottom heat to encourage sprouting.

EPIPHYLLUMS Frank Granatowski

Now is the time

to feed mature plants with 0-10-10 nitrogen-free or low-nitrogen fertilizer to promote blooming in the spring. Either liquid or time-release granules may be used. If liquid is used, another application may be necessary in about 30 days.

to prune out unproductive and unsightly growth, thereby allowing more energy to be utilized by newer and healthier branches.

to maintain preventative pest control by keeping plant containers free of debris. Spray with insecticides only when absolutely necessary. Read and follow directions carefully. (Orthene, malathion, and cygon are available locally.)

to bait for slugs and snails. A few granules of Sluggeta placed at the base of plants has proved most effective and leaves little or no unsightly residue.

to protect from unexpected frost and strong wintry winds.

to take advantage of beneficial rains. If plants are planted in proper porous soil even prolonged heavy rains will have no harmful effect on them. Collect rain water for future use. Store in opaque containers to prevent buildup of algae or infestation of mosquito larvae.

FERNS Ray Sodomka

Now is the time

to fertilize platyceriums (staghorns)--- give bone meal, hoof and horn, or a high-nitrogen liquid.

to control aphids.

to keep after slugs, snails, pill bugs, etc.; winter does not stop them.

to water gently, but do not soak during the hot days. Cool nights keep their feet too cold. Do not rely on rains. Check any hidden or covered plants to see they get water. Rains may not have reached them.

to take "pups" from platyceriums and mount.

to replant spore.

to trim off dead fronds and keep surrounding areas clean---may use dead material for compost.

FUCHSIAS William Selby

Now is the time

to prune, if you have not already, after the last frost danger. Prune when soil is moist and leaves turgid (leaves and stems are full of water).

to prune heavily, leaving strong stems about ½ inch ahead of a node. Remove all weak, thin branches. Plants in baskets should be cut back to edge of basket and trimmed to within 4 inches of soil.

to shape other plants according to variety.

to take cuttings from good end clippings; takes a little longer to root in cool weather.

to spray remaining foliage and soil to eliminate pests that might winter over.

to apply a 10-5-5 fish-type fertilizer after pruning.

GERANIUMS Carol Roller

Now is the time

to water only when plants become fairly dry. Each watering should moisten the entire soil ball. Excess water should escape through the drainage holes.

to continue feeding a balanced fertilizer dissolved in water, using it a half the recommended strength every 4th or 5th watering or as often as needed to keep plants from developing deficiencies.

to prune plants which have not been cut back. Some green leaves should remain on every stem which has been cut back. Lanky plants which were pruned in the fall may be pruned again to produce compact plants.

to tip pinch other plants which were pruned in the fall.

to make cuttings from the prunings. Shelter cuttings from extreme weather conditions.

to continue pest and disease control using products according to the manufacturers' directions.

to give temporary shelter from freezing, if temperatures fall below 30° F.

to rotate plants regularly for symmetrical shape.

GESNERIADS Mike Ludwig

Now is the time

to prepare pots for the spring planting season---wash with hot water and let them stand overnight in a clorox solution to kill any disease. Wash thoroughly after soaking and let them dry.

to spray for pests and disease. There will be little or no damage to plants which are more dormant in winter. Check for pests and help avoid problems that might occur in the spring.

to not water on cold, cloudy days or in late afternoon, to prevent many problems.

to start achimenes rhizomes now. Place them in a damp bed of vermiculite

in a shoe box; watch for mold on new growth. In 15 days or so there should be signs of new growth, if temperatures are warm enough. Plant in a loose mix, placing rhizomes just under the surface, keep barely moist until growth appears above the soil.

to repot streptocarpus. Remove last year's flowering leaves and clean up plant. Repot in order to have a better plant.

to check sinningia tubers to ensure they are not too dry, or have started to grow. Add a bit of moisture so they do not shrivel. If they have sprouted, pot them, and water so they will start to grow.

IRISES San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Society

Now is the time

to make last planting of bulbous iris for spring bloom.

to continue watering program, especially if rains are light.

to help control rust by starting a regular spray program with copper oil.

to start to feed in February all irises with 0-10-10 liquid fertilizer. Follow directions carefully and do not over fertilize.

to start a regular program of snail, slug, and aphid control.

to keep old brown fans cut off tall-bearded. Good cleaning and spraying is helpful in pest control.

ORCHIDS Charlie Fouquette

Now is the time

to keep orchids that are outdoors protected from cold rain and hail damage---such as cymbidiums, laelias, cattleyas.

to keep nobile type dendrobes on dry side but cool. Watch for swelling of nodes for flower production, then move to warmer area.

to water as early as possible in morning so no water is in the crown of plants at nightfall.

to always place plants (phals) in same place and direction as originally when watering or moving. Catteyas, evergreen dendrobes, cymbidiums, etc. Quite a number of orchids start spiking at this time when the sun is low and to the south.

to watch for cold drafts and sudden changes in temperature---will cause bud loss (blasting).

to check the heater for spider webs in flues or clogged vents, check regulators and transformers, etc. Check the swamp cooler drain, water, patch leaks(use roof tar). Check connections at motor; make sure the switch is in "manual OFF." Check belt on squirrel cage, oil cups on motor and shaft of squirrel cage. Take pad off: renew them or soak in vinegar and water,or phosphoric acid and water---removes salt in fiber.

to watch for slugs and snails; use granules of 7.5% metaldahyde for good protection. Keep bait out for sowbugs. Watch for scale and mealybugs as weather starts to warm up. Use denatured alcohol and toothbrush to clean scale off plants (be easy) and/or use malathion 50 without a petroleum base.

to watch the plants that have no pseudobulbs for storing moisture. Plants still dry out during those grey days that go on for weeks.

to start now to get plants ready for orchid shows in the spring.

ROSES San Diego Rose Society

Now is the time

to prune roses. (For those near San Diego, California: watch for dates of demonstrations on pruning of roses in Balboa Park.)

to finish all major pruning jobs and follow with a garden cleanup---a good dormant spraying of bushes and the surrounding areas.

to plant bareroot roses, mounding each bush with damp soil until new growth starts, to prevent dehydration.

to cultivate established roses as new growth starts and feed, using one cupful per bush.

to give newly planted bushes a feeding of liquid fertilizer six weeks after planting.

to start preventative spraying in February for mildew and aphids. Use $\frac{1}{2}$ strength on new foliage.

to add iron chelates after roots start growing (iron can only be absorbed by new roots).

to supply adequate water---especially if no rain---when rose bushes are growing rapidly.

VEGETABLES

Now is the time

to start seeds indoors of spring vegetables, such as tomatoes, peppers, squash, and cucumbers, that can be transplanted in the garden about the middle of March.

to plant roots of perennial vegetables and berry plants in the garden; rains and cold weather are not likely to harm them.

to set plants of broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, celery, chard, cauliflower, and collards anytime the soil is dry

enough to work.
to plant divisions of artichokes, aspargus roots, and plants of fruiting berry vines as soon as possible before the end of February.
to plant onion sets and make a second planting of lettuce, using started plants.

GREEN THUMB Penny Bunker

Now is the time
to make marguerite cuttings from new tips. Remove lower leaves and insert cutting in rooting medium. Keep in shaded area until rooted.
to start planting gladiolus bulbs; make successive plantings at monthly intervals for flowers over a longer period of time.
to plant hybrid amaryllis bulbs, with the tip of nose just showing, in a sunny or semi-shaded area.
to cut chrysanthemums back to the ground.
to plant bareroot trees.
to prune flowering trees and shrubs. Pruning at this time will shape the plants and the flowers may be used in arrangements.
to spray deciduous trees and shrubs with a combination insecticide and fungicide, such as oil and lime-sulphur and copperas. Follow directions as given. Continue to bait for slugs and snails.

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(Continued from Page 4)

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Pres: Mr. Martin Walsh 277-5165
4077 Mt.Everest Blvd,SanDiego 92111
4th Tue, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY HERB SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Barbara Baker 755-9226
P.O. Box 1387, Rancho Santa Fe 92067
2nd Sat, Homes of Members, 11:00 am
(No meetings in July or August.)

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Jesse Canale 274-1144
3436 Brandywine St, San Diego 92117
1st Tues, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AFRICAN VIOLET SOC.
Pres: Mrs. Toni Baker 582-7516
6475 - 50th St, San Diego 92120
2nd Mon,Fellowship Hall,ChristUnited Methodist Church, 3295 Meade,12 Noon

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Eugene Lund 469-1677
5666 Aztec Dr, La Mesa 92041
2nd Wed, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Marvin Haworth 465-2727
10453 Fairhill Dr,SpringValley 92077
3rd Thurs, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANT SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Ron Berkel 465-7649
1142 Osage Dr, Spring Valley 92077
2nd Mon, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m.

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Eugene Cooper 295-7938
4444 Arista Dr, San Diego 92103
2nd Tues, Casa del Prado, 7:30 pm

SAN DIEGO GESNERIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Mike Ludwig 574-1138
642 Torrance St, San Diego 92103
1st Thurs, Casa del Prado, 7:30pm

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOC.
Pres: Mrs. Archie Owen 753-7648
227 Peckham Place, Encinitas 92024
3rd Sun, Glendale Federal S&L
740 Lomas SantaFe,SolanaBeach,1:pm

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
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28034 Glenmeade Way,Escondido 92026
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